

The Hon. John C. Coughenour

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT SEATTLE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
  
Plaintiff,  
  
v.  
  
GEORGE RAMIREZ,  
  
Defendant.

NO. CR23-189-JCC

~~[PROPOSED]~~

**PRELIMINARY ORDER  
OF FORFEITURE**

THIS MATTER comes before the Court on the United States' Motion for Preliminary Order of Forfeiture ("Motion") seeking to forfeit, to the United States, Defendant George Ramirez's interest in the following property ("Subject Property"):

1. One Lorcin I.25 .25 cal. handgun with serial number 146031, and
2. Six rounds of .25 cal. ammunition.

The Court, having reviewed the United States' Motion, as well as the other papers and pleadings filed in this matter, hereby FINDS entry of a Preliminary Order of Forfeiture is appropriate because:

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- 1       •     The Subject Property is forfeitable pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(6), as  
2             property that facilitated the offense of *Illegal Transportation of an Alien,*  
3             *Private Financial Gain*, in violation 8 U.S.C. §§ 1324(a)(1)(A)(ii) and  
4             (B)(1), and 18 U.S.C. § 2, as charged in Count 1 of the Superseding  
5             Indictment; and
- 6       •     Defendant Ramirez agreed in the Plea Agreement he entered on May 17,  
7             2024, to forfeit the Subject Property pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(6), as  
8             property that facilitated his commission of the offense charged in Count 1.  
9             Dkt. No. 52 ¶ 12.

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11       NOW, THEREFORE, THE COURT ORDERS:

12       1)     Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 982(a)(6) and Defendant George Ramirez’s Plea  
13     Agreement, Defendant’s interest in the Subject Property is fully and finally forfeited, in  
14     its entirety, to the United States;

15       2)     Pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 32.2(b)(4)(A)–(B), this Preliminary Order will  
16     be final as to Defendant at the time he is sentenced, it will be made part of the sentence,  
17     and it will be included in the judgment;

18       3)     The Department of Homeland Security, Customs Border Protection, and/or  
19     its authorized agents or representatives (“CBP”) shall maintain the Subject Property in its  
20     custody and control until further order of this Court;

21       4)     Pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 32.2(b)(6) and 21 U.S.C. § 853(n), the  
22     United States shall publish notice of this Preliminary Order and its intent to dispose of the  
23     Subject Property as permitted by governing law. The notice shall be posted on an official  
24     government website – currently [www.forfeiture.gov](http://www.forfeiture.gov) – for at least thirty (30) days. For  
25     any person known to have alleged an interest in the property, the United States shall, to  
26     the extent possible, provide direct written notice to that person. The notice shall state that  
27     any person, other than the Defendant, who has or claims a legal interest in the property

1 must file a petition with the Court within sixty (60) days of the first day of publication of  
2 the notice (which is thirty (30) days from the last day of publication), or within thirty (30)  
3 days of receipt of direct written notice, whichever is earlier. The notice shall advise all  
4 interested persons that the petition:

- 5 a. shall be for a hearing to adjudicate the validity of the petitioner's  
6 alleged interest in the property;
- 7 b. shall be signed by the petitioner under penalty of perjury; and,
- 8 c. shall set forth the nature and extent of the petitioner's right, title, or  
9 interest in the property, as well as any facts supporting the  
10 petitioner's claim and the specific relief sought.

11 5) If no third-party petition is filed within the allowable time period, the  
12 United States shall have clear title to the property, and this Preliminary Order shall  
13 become the Final Order of Forfeiture as provided by Fed. R. Crim. P. 32.2(c)(2);

14 6) If a third-party petition is filed, upon a showing that discovery is necessary  
15 to resolve factual issues it presents, discovery may be conducted in accordance with the  
16 Federal Rules of Civil Procedure before any hearing on the petition is held. Following  
17 adjudication of any third-party petitions, the Court will enter a Final Order of Forfeiture,  
18 pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 32.2(c)(2) and 21 U.S.C. § 853(n), reflecting that  
19 adjudication; and,

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1           7)     The Court will retain jurisdiction for the purpose of enforcing this  
2 Preliminary Order, adjudicating any third-party petitions, entering a Final Order of  
3 Forfeiture, and amending the Preliminary Order or Final Order as necessary pursuant to  
4 Fed. R. Crim. P. 32.2(e).

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6           IT IS SO ORDERED.

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8           DATED this 15th day of November, 2024.

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A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John C. Coughenour", is written over a horizontal line.

THE HON. JOHN C. COUGHENOUR  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Presented by:

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